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Ministry of Forests and Range

LOGAN LAKE OFFERED COMMUNITY FOREST AGREEMENT

LOGAN LAKE – The District of Logan Lake has been offered a five-year probationary community forest agreement, Forests and Range Minister Rich Coleman announced today.

"Community forests provide more than employment and economic benefits," Coleman said. "In the case of Logan Lake, it will allow beetle wood to be salvaged and will reduce the risk of forest fires in the area."

The agreement will grant the District of Logan Lake the right to harvest up to 20,000 cubic metres of timber per year on public forest lands within the Kamloops timber supply area.

"A community forest will provide a number of valuable benefits for Logan Lake," said Logan Lake Mayor Ella Brown. "Not only will it create local employment and training opportunities and assist in the development of a value-added wood industry, it will also support key elements of our 2004 Wildfire Safety Plan – reducing fire risk and enhancing recreational opportunities in and around Logan Lake."

Probationary community forest agreements are a form of legal tenure by which the Province transfers decision-making to communities that wish to more fully participate in the stewardship of local Crown forest resources. They are area-based, and give communities exclusive rights to harvest timber, as well as the opportunity to manage forest resources such as timber and botanical forest products, recreation, wildlife, water and scenic viewscapes.

Community forests are intended to stimulate long-term employment, forest-related education and skills training, as well as other social, environmental and economic benefits, while meeting environmental stewardship standards. After an initial term of five years, the agreements may be extended for an additional term of five years or replaced with a long-term agreement of not less than 25 years.

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